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VOL. XIV.]

MARCH, 1838.

[No. 3.

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INTELLIGENCE FROM LIBERIA.

By the arrival of the Susan Elizabeth at New York, from Western Africa, despatches have been received from the Colony up to about the 1st of February. There is a manifest improvement in the agriculture and other leading interests of the Colony, and a spirit of resolution to make further and greater improvements. Evils, doubtless, exist, which must be remedied, and great wisdom and energy are demanded to allay sectional differences and jealousies between settlements under the control of different Societies, and bind them harmoniously together; yet such a measure of success has thus far attended the plan of African Colonization, as to afford reasons for confidence in the work, even when prosecuted as it should be to a far greater extent, and with State and National resources. We present the following statements from the despatches:—

*From the Lieutenant Governor, Anthony D. Williams.*

MONROVIA, January 28, 1838.

The Emperor, with 96 emigrants, cast anchor in this harbour on the 12th instant, and were all safely landed two days afterwards. These emigrants I have located at Millsburg and Caldwell—thirteen at the latter place, and eighty-three at the former. Their town lots are already assigned them. And directly after the sailing of this vessel I shall proceed to allot them their farms. I have not yet had sufficient acquaintance with them, to enable me to say much of their character. They, however, seem anxious for their lands, that they may go immediately to work: a disposition which I shall by all means encourage. Those situated at Caldwell have applied for farms on the Stockton. Those at Millsburg will of course have their farms attached to that settlement. Sixty of those emigrants who were liberated by John Smith, Esq., of Virginia, Mr. McPhail informs me, are to be provisioned twelve months, as well as to be supplied from the Society's Store with tools, &c. To do this, will be altogether impossible, unless timely resources shall be sent out by the Board. The supplies sent out by the Emperor (I mean of provisions) will not suffice six months. And, unfortunately, drafts

on the Society are in such low repute, that I shall not be able to do any thing in the way of purchase. Of the goods that came in the Emperor, there was neither bill of lading, invoice, nor account of any description; nor even a copy of the charter party. I have enclosed a copy of the account of goods received, that by comparing accounts you may ascertain if they have been all delivered. I must here be allowed, respectfully, to represent to the Society the necessity of some arrangements by which persons in the employment of the Society may be paid their salary without so great a loss as they have been compelled lately to sustain. The Public Store has for four months been entirely destitute of available merchandise. And it is seldom that drafts can be negotiated with vessels, even at a discount of fourteen to twenty per cent. This loss, persons in your employment have frequently been made to sustain, in order to obtain the common necessaries of life. And at other times they have not been able to get them off at all. This bears severely on those of the officers who depend for subsistence on their daily labor. There are others who have other resources, and of course are not subjected to these disadvantages. The cooking apparatus, timber for deck, and berths for expedition vessels, have been hitherto delivered over to the agency as the property of the Colonization Society. It has not been the case in this instance. I know not if these articles were provided by the Society.

I am sorry that the Sugar Mill did not come. I have about six acres of promising, thrifty sugar-cane, which I am apprehensive will be lost for want of a mill to grind it. I am more anxious to succeed in manufacturing this cane, for the purpose of demonstrating the practicability of cultivating and manufacturing the article with comparative ease, and thereby giving an impulse to the business, than for the benefit to be derived from it in this case. I am continuing to enlarge the sphere of cultivation on the Public Farm. On this subject I am happy to inform you there is an astonishing improvement in the Colony. The spirit of agriculture is on the increase; and each succeeding month finds greater encroachments by the hand of cultivation in the surrounding forest.

The native wars in our vicinity continue to rage with unabated fury. Jenkins, a chief of the Gorahs, made an irruption about four days ago, into a town of the Dey tribe, and captured and murdered about two hundred persons. This is nearly the last town of any consequence that belonged to the Dey tribe. The Gorahs seem determined on the extermination of this unfortunate people; and there is every probability they will effect their purpose. Should they succeed in extinguishing the Deys, I cannot at present say by whom the country will be inhabited—whether by the Gorahs or Condahs. In either case, I fear we shall have troublesome, restless neighbors. The Condahs are already occupying a portion of the country, and it is reported there are already several baricades from the coast to Bo-porah. If this be correct, the Gorahs will find in the end that they have conquered a country, but not for themselves.

Accompanying is the account of the goods paid by me to old Mama, and which extinguishes her claim on the Society for the purchase of

Bushrod Island. The Board, I perceive, desires more information on one particular in my last communication: that of granting twenty instead of ten acres of land to persons desirous to commence farming. My reasons for so doing are the following:—Farming cannot be carried on advantageously without stock, and stock cannot be raised in Africa without a pasture—for which purpose alone ten acres would be a small space. If, therefore, the people are restricted to ten acres, they will be forced either to purchase or circumscribe their operations within a compass that would render the business altogether unimportant. Farming here is expensive, and such generally are the circumstances of the people, that when they commence, all their resources are put in the most pressing requisition. The Society have more land than will for years be required in allotments. And should all they now possess be taken up, the expense and difficulty of obtaining more will not be found very great. I therefore concluded it was best to grant to such as required it, and at the same time give assurance that they would enter immediately upon it, a farm of twenty, instead of ten acres of land as before.

I have attempted to carry into effect the resolutions of the Board with regard to the removal of the Society's property from Edina. On Governor Matthias' representation, that the removal of the arms at this time might jeopardize the peace of the place, the property has been suffered to remain for the decision of the Board. Accompanying is the schedule of the property.

We are anxiously awaiting the laws, and did hope to receive them by the Emperor. I have not time to say any thing more with regard to the present Constitution of the Colony, than that there is a growing inclination in the Colony for its alteration and amendment. When I shall have obtained a clear idea of the views of the people on this subject, I shall lay them before the Board.

*Extracts from the letter of Dr. Taylor.*

MILLSBURG, September 15, 1837.

*To the Board of Managers  
of the Am. Col. Society.*

DEAR GENTLEMEN: AS the vessel that left a few days since was too swift for me, being twenty miles from the port from which she sailed, my letters which were written for her, did not arrive in time. I have the extreme satisfaction to inform the Board, that at this time, there is nothing like the indisposition among the people, that existed when I came to the place in February last. There are on my sick list at the present time—in a community of one hundred and ninety-six persons—seven patients; out of this number, only two are of the company that came out with me. Two are old women, for whom medicine will do little or no good. Two, an infant and its mother who took cold, in consequence of being driven out of the house by our master animals, the drivers;\* and the seventh, a man (G. Caster) who was so unfortunate as, on the evening of the 14th, to have his arm fractured. I have now commenced to take regular notes of every case that comes under my

\* A species of ant.

charge. I should have done this long since, but I have not been able to read or write any thing worth notice. I think I may now venture to say, that the Lord has brought me through the fever. But my poor wife seems to suffer still from fever and chill. The damp weather makes very much against her, and myself also, when it is so that I cannot get out to take my walks. There is one singular fact, which experience has taught me since I have been in Africa; and this fact is exactly the reverse of what has been the generally received opinion, both in America and Africa. The fact is this: That, if a man would enjoy perfect health in this country, he must take just twice as much exercise as would preserve health in the United States. I am fully persuaded that this is a true statement, from what I have experienced in my own case, and what I have observed of others.

There came out with me a man hearty and robust, who suffered much less from fever than any other man that came, except one; but in consequence of indolence, he is now good for nothing—the most so, of any of the whole company. Every other man that came out in the *Rondout*, to use a common phrase, is up and doing; while the above mentioned individual does nothing but eat and lie down. I have used all the persuasion of which I am capable; but all to no effect. It is a truth, that I have had but two patients under my charge since I have been here, that implicitly obeyed my directions. Bread stuff has been very scarce; potatoes have been our main stay; cassadas, plantains, and corn, entered largely into the account. Fresh meat has been very scarce. Sometimes there would not be any killed for two or three weeks together, and even then, but a very few would hear of it, before it would be disposed of. There is an animal in the *St. Paul's* which is of an entirely different make from the one generally called *Aligator*, which is here called *Crocodile*. And I declare that I have never seen veal in any market in the United States equal to it. There are many other things that are eaten here, that we would not think of eating in the United States; besides all those that resemble what we admire at home.

Not less than three vessels have arrived in the harbour of *Monrovia* within the last two months, and the only letter I received was one written to me before I left *Wilmington*. I presume you have been informed of the fact, that one of the *New Georgians* is to be hanged this day, *Friday the 15th*, for the wilful, and no doubt premeditated murder of one of his townsmen.

*October 3.*

The health of the people still good. The state of the weather is improving. The rains are going off. We have a shower daily, and nocturnally. The evenings and mornings are so delightful, that persons cannot content themselves in the house, who are in health. There is much less complaint about bread, now that rice has began to come in, than at my last date. The people that came out in *July*, have suffered much indeed, for want of medical attendance principally.

There is not the shadow of a doubt, but that this place is vastly more suitable for acclimation than any other Colony in *Liberia*. Geographical locality has great influence in modifying the grade, that the *African fever* will assume among recent emigrants. I have not yet been able to



ascertain what peculiar general characters the disease takes in the other settlements, but I shall; I have hitherto had no opportunity, in consequence of the confining nature of my situation, with regard to indisposition and weather. In this settlement, as every where else, I believe, a great deal depends upon the exciting cause. My own case was a mild remittent. Some others were malignant intermittents, attended with the varieties of duration of interval between each paroxysm, as Quotidians, Tertians, and Quartans. You cannot expect a very lucid description of this fever from me; you are too well acquainted with my many imperfections; I trust, however, by applying myself, I may yet be able to give some satisfactory information, both relative to the diseases, and other things connected with the Colony, which may to the Board be serviceable. In my treatment of the diseases here, I am guided entirely by the circumstances and situation of my patients. I prescribe for symptoms, not for names. Thanks to Dr. Lindsley for so deeply impressing my mind with the importance of this great practical truth. Had he have taken a course contrary to this, I should have lost my own life as well as many more of the lives of those I had under my care. I did not, fortunately, attempt to prove the efficacy of new medicines, but stuck to those whose efficacy has, by long experience, been established in the treatment of the diseases of all climates. And I thank God, this has been my course. My object, gentlemen, in coming out, was to try to do good. I am called upon to fill almost all the offices in Church and State, (not Minister yet,) but steward, leader, trustee, and exhorter. The performance of almost all public duties is required of me. My patients are all convalescent. My wife has got entirely rid of her chills. My patient, with fractured humerus, is doing well. If I was only an efficient botanist, I have a field before me that would serve me to explore during the balance of my life. A natural historian would find matter here to occupy his mind and pen, as long as he could live. I do not think that I have seen a greater variety of birds in the United States in twenty-nine years, than I have seen here in the short space of eight months.

On to-morrow, an election is to take place throughout the Colony, for delegates to a convention, called to alter the Constitution; which, in many respects, is very defective, and does not answer the present improving condition of the colonists. Sometime since a meeting was called at Monrovia—the object of which, was to make a statement to the Board, of the sinking condition of the Colony, and to solicit aid to improve the same; and to show what portions of the present Constitution they felt to be oppressive. The first of these objects, I, of course, could not approve of. To the second, I could have no objections. I suggested the propriety of draughting such a Constitution as would suit the present circumstances, and to send it also to the Board: if the Board should approve it, then there would be no farther complaint against them. Whether this statement has been made out, I am not prepared to say; but some amendments to the present Constitution are to be made, if they agree.

*January 5.*

Since my last date, nothing has transpired of any importance. In this town (Millsburg) three deaths have occurred. The general health-

iness of the people certainly improves. Morality increases astonishingly. Since I have been in Millsburg, about sixty members have been added to the Church—not from any thing that I have done, though I have tried to do what I could. The spirit of agriculture increases also: not near so much trading and hunting. True, they are obliged in some measure to hunt more or less, or many would never eat meat. The next year, that is, the year 1838, I shall have four hundred dollars coming to me. My account against the Society for medicine furnished, will be something. I have not yet made out my account. But I think I shall have enough to enable me to pay Miss M—— something. Therefore the Board will be so kind as to pay to her, for me, one hundred dollars. In my letter to her, I have said nothing of my intention to make this request of the Board; but I feel that I am under ten thousand obligations to her, and shall never feel at rest, until I discharge them.

Since my last date, I do think, with few exceptions, I have enjoyed as good health as I did in the United States. Certainly I weigh more at this time, than when I came. The health of my wife is not quite so good. She still has chills once in a while. I still forbear writing upon particulars—things which attracted my attention when I first came—for want of such information as I wish;—this information, business and sickness have prevented my obtaining. It is not to be obtained within the sphere of my duty.

Great scarcity still prevails in the Colony, with regard to provision. Our hopes are animated with the prospect of plenty, on the arrival of the next expedition, which is daily expected, from the report of Capt. Brown, who said that there was an expedition to sail from Norfolk in three or four weeks after he sailed. With Capt. Lawlin, some of the preachers return to the United States, who intend to come immediately back. Was it not that an expedition is expected daily, and that it is the intention of the Lieutenant Governor to send as many to Millsburg as possible, I think I should come over with them for a month or two, just to convince many who stand in their own light, opposing the scheme of Colonization. The Board must not think hard of my desiring to come over. I want to let the people, with whom I am connected, and for whom I feel interested, know, that it is not here, as some would have them think it is. The great difficulty is, that their minds have been so poisoned and filled with wrong ideas upon this subject, that to write will do little or no good; for, if your letter does not bear the most terrific aspect, not one word will be believed. They will say, some white person has written it, and signed some person's name who was known to have gone out. True, they may, and many will perhaps say, that selfish motives influence me; but many, I know, have confidence in me, and will believe me. And as Millsburg wants some smart, intelligent men, I shall not feel satisfied, until I make an effort to get some here. Not only so, I promised my wife's mother to bring her back in a short time, if we lived. I am confident that my returning to the United States, for a short time, will be of advantage to the cause in the place where I was raised. Almost every settlement is crowded with the most ignorant. They know nothing, nor can you learn them any thing; for in their own notion they know all. If, therefore, we had fifteen or

twenty, to set example before these, perhaps good would result. With regard to the observance of law, there exists more ignorance than upon any other point, almost. Now, at the Cape, things go on very differently. But here it will never be better, until we get some smart men to come and reside here.

But with regard to the morality of this community, it is very good, and on the increase greatly. Religion is flourishing. During the year there has been an accession to the Methodist Church only, of one hundred and sixty-one members. On the night of the 8th of January, there was a missionary meeting held, at which there were eleven preachers, who belong to the Liberia Annual Conference,—one sick, which makes up that number which followed our Great Leader. At this meeting, by subscription and collection, I think more than one hundred dollars were secured for the missionary cause in Africa. This, I think, cannot fail of making a good impression upon the feelings of our Colonization, as well as our Missionary friends in America. I am obliged merely to touch upon the various things which come before me; but of all these things, you will hear more fully from other and more proper and competent persons. I would be much obliged to the Board, if they will let Mr. David Stewart, of Baltimore, know whether they will settle with him, for any medicine I may send for. I will write to him for such things as I want, and request him to present his account to your honorable Treasurer, if such a course meets the approbation of the Board.

I find I am in want of many very important articles—without which, in some cases, I cannot get on well. From Mr. Stewart I have no doubt I can get the best, upon, perhaps, the most reasonable terms. The vessel will now sail in a very few days, and I know not when we shall hear from America again. If I do not receive what I have written for, by the vessel that we are looking for every day, I do not know what I am to do. I have not made that progress in improvement I ought to have made, and which I desire, and expected to have made. I very soon found that study would be injurious to me, before I was acclimated. Therefore I thought I would not pursue a course which I saw would injure me. Now, thank God, nothing seems to hurt me. I shall, therefore, endeavor to improve all I can for the time to come. I hope I shall be able to do much for the Colonization Society, in every capacity.

*January 16.*

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the reception of a letter from the Treasurer. I am gratified indeed to learn that the Board was not displeased with the contents of my letter, for I felt it to be my duty to write as I did, though it was with fear and trembling, occasioned by the consideration that it might be thought presumption. I have just got my hands full again. I am not only Physician, but in a great degree, Agent, in this place; for the Agent has given the last emigrants almost entirely into my charge. There are many among the last company, who are very old; many of whom I am fearful for. I, however, will do the best I can for all. Generally, the last emigrants are healthy; and I think if they will be prudent, many will live and do well. They

are very ignorant, and have not been well provided for. They did not bring beds, nor wearing clothes, except what are very indifferent and insufficient. I think I shall be able to accommodate fifty-five or sixty. All my notions about visiting America must sleep for the present, as every moment of my time will now be occupied.

The spirit for agricultural improvement is about the same. They have commenced raising stock.

I must conclude; for I expect now one half of what I have written, will be considered as worse than nonsense; but I console myself with the reflection, that the Board know my incapacity, and believe my motive pure;—therefore they will pass my imperfections by. I pray, gentlemen, that God may continue to smile upon your labors for Africa. May your Institution prosper, and have more than a sufficiency of temporal means for the accomplishment of her unprecedented design;—which is the restoration of Africa to the knowledge of God and letters. I will add only, that the health of this settlement is exceedingly good.

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*From the New York Commercial Advertiser.*

We mentioned yesterday the receipt of advices from our friends in Liberia. We give below, extracts from several letters, which we are persuaded will be interesting to those who have a regard for the prosperity of the colony in that country. We stated yesterday, that we knew of but one death among the white inhabitants since our last advices, and that was the lady of Governor Matthias, of Bassa Cove. We regret, however, to find that Miss Annesley, of Albany, who went out in the Charlotte Harper, from Philadelphia, in company with Mr. Matthias, died a few days before Mrs. Matthias.

The first extract we give is from Gov. Matthias, and is dated on the 25th of December. He says—"For several months after our arrival we all enjoyed excellent, and I may say improved, health, but toward the close of October, having been a good deal exposed for some days, I was attacked with fever, which lasted for some ten days. At one period it was thought my situation was critical, but, through the goodness of God, I was restored to health. As soon as I was convalescent my wife was taken down with the same disease. After the fever had left her she suffered severely with nervous attacks, which finally affected her reason, in which state she continued until almost the hour of her dissolution, which took place on the night of the 3d of December.—There were some lucid hours during her affliction, during which she gave us the most satisfactory evidence that the Lord was with her, and that she was perfectly resigned to his will. She expressly said that she did not regret coming to Africa. On one of those occasions the Rev. Mr. Crocker, of the Baptist mission, was present, and to him she expressed the strongest assurances of her spiritual enjoyment."

"Another member of our little family who came out with us, has also been taken from us—Miss Annesley, of Albany. This interesting young lady, whom you saw in Philadelphia, and with whose friends you are acquainted, died on the Friday previous, and was committed to the earth on the day Mrs. M. died. Her health had not been good

since her arrival in this country. She was a good girl—and her end was peace.

“In view of the sad event which has befallen me, some of my friends may think that I have done wrong in leaving my native country for Africa; yet deeply as I feel my loss, in being deprived of the partner of my joys and of my sorrows, I can say, “the will of the Lord be done.” I have had such manifestations of the divine goodness, that I believe that God designs my coming to this country for some gracious purpose.

“Although my afflictions are great, very great, I now declare that I view the cause of colonization with the same interest, if not greater, than I ever did. It is the spot for the colored man; he can here live in comfort and peace.

“What shall I say to you of the climate of this country? Was it not for the process we have to pass through, I should consider this climate one of the finest in the world. We have no fogs—and there is very little variation of the temperature. It is now the dry season, and the thermometer has not been above 84, nor lower than 79, since it began.

“It is now Christmas, and while you in New York are probably suffering from severe cold, the country around us is dressed in the richest garb, and this, too, will be the case during the year.

“You will probably see my official reports to the board, yet permit me to say, that our colony is marching onward in a very satisfactory manner. Our courts of justice—our merchants—our military men fully satisfy me that the mind of a colored man is equal in every respect to the white man’s, when left to pursue a course untrammelled by others.

“We propose to form a new settlement up the St. John’s river, for which purpose we have purchased some eight thousand acres of land, beautifully situated on an elevation. Indeed, in a day or two I am to meet some of the head men or kings, with a view of purchasing a portion of their country; these men have expressed a desire to have our protection, by our forming settlements near them, &c.”

The following is a letter from Mrs. Moore, formerly Eunice Sharp, a colored female, who sailed from this city about four years since. It is addressed to one of the ladies of the Vestry-street branch Missionary Society, and we publish it from the original, without any alteration.

MONROVIA, Jan. 12th, 1838.

“I have a goodly number of pupils, from twenty years old down to three; but not advanced in learning as they are in years. I had purposed to send samples of their work, but could not obtain materials for that purpose. I have some very interesting little girls, who have endeared themselves to me by a thousand tender ties. I have watched them from the alphabet to more interesting things. I have seen them trying to point out the different countries on the map, I have heard them tell me the nature of a noun, conjugate a verb, and tell how many times one number is contained in another; but all this was not half so entertaining to me as when I saw them crowding to the altar of God, begging for the prayers of the children of God. But what could I say when I saw them come round the table of the Lord? Ah! the secret whisper of my soul was, ‘Give God the glory, O my soul! that mine eyes have seen the salvation of God upon my own people; glory be to God.’ I have heard the wild native of Africa testify that God hath power on earth to forgive sin. I have children in my school not over ten years old, who profess religion and are members of the church. My dear sister, you cannot imagine what my feelings are sometimes,

when seated in my little piazza, listening to their little pious talk. Surely, O God! out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise!—This is the Lord's doing: and it is marvellous in our eyes. Rejoice, then, ye daughters of benevolence! The Judge of all the earth is answering your prayers in behalf of poor benighted Africa.—Yes, though they have lain long upon the altar, He has smelled a sweet savor; and it appears to me the day is beginning to dawn, and the day-star is rising on this dark division of the earth. Zion has travelled in the greatness of her strength; the ministers of God have preached with success; none, I believe, have run in vain, nor labored in vain. The way is opening for the poor native who is now worshipping devils, to become acquainted with the worship of the true and living God. May the great Head of the church breathe the spirit of fervent prayer upon you, and all who have or may aid in this glorious work; and may your joint petitions prove as efficacious as the hands of Caleb and Joshua were to Moses, when he prayed for the discomfiture of his enemies. After taking all things into consideration, we have reason to thank God and take courage.

I remain yours, in the bonds of christian love, forever,

EUNICE MOORE."

In addition to these advices we are indebted to the Rev. Dr. Bangs, corresponding secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, for an opportunity to peruse the Annual Report of the Liberia Mission, drawn up by the Rev. John Seys, the superintendent of the mission, and dated January 12, 1838.

In the outset of this interesting document, the heart is cheered by the information, that "A year of unparalleled prosperity to the Liberia Mission has just closed upon us." It appears, indeed, from the whole tenor of the report, that the year 1837 has been signally distinguished in the little colonies in Africa, for the progress of civilization, and the advancement of the missionary cause. All the towns and settlements in the colonies seem to have been greatly blessed;—and not only so, but the diffusion of Christian knowledge is making visible progress among the natives, and upward of twenty of the hitherto degraded and benighted natives, have become hopefully pious.

Mr. Seys speaks with evident gratification of the accession to their forces arriving in the Charlotte Harper, in July. The arrival of a pious, active, and skilful physician, in the person of Dr. Goheen, was considered a great acquisition. From the strict temperance of the Doctor in all things, he had scarcely been touched by the acclimating fever.

The Liberian mission annual conference closed a very interesting session on the 8th of January.—Three promising young men were received on trial—two in full connection.

After speaking of the general prosperity of the two schools in Monrovia, one under the charge of Mr. Herring, and the other under that of Mrs. Moore, a highly respectable and well educated black woman from the city of New York, Mr. Seys deplors the want of an institution of a higher order than merely elementary schools. Such a school he determined to establish, trusting to the friends of the cause in the United States to sustain him.—About the middle of January he commenced the work, and on the 29th the academy was in operation, with the best prospects and one hundred pupils—young men. At present the church is occupied for the school. An edifice for the academy is to be erected. Mr. Seys speaks of the movements in America, of last year, for the purpose of founding an institution of the kind—and regrets that he hears little of it of late.

They want a teacher from this country—a young man of good classical education, graduate of some one of our colleges, and of a true missionary spirit.

In the settlement of New Georgia, the school prospers; as also in Caldwell. Indeed a sweeping religious reformation has taken place in the latter colony; and the good work has been manifested in the persons, not only of natives who have been in the service of families in Caldwell, but also among numbers as it were *right out of the bush*. “Away, then, with the notion,” says Mr. Seys, “that the colonization scheme does nothing for the native African—that the missionary enterprise is confined to the emigrants, and that the natives receive no benefit of it.” The report then gives the names of a number of natives who have been reared in the families of the emigrants, and have grown up to piety and respectability.

In Millsburgh, the wilderness is blossoming like the rose, and the solitary places around it becoming glad. A society of eleven persons attached to the Methodist church, was organized in 1836. It now numbers sixty-three. A manual labor school in operation there, has been greatly blessed. A touching incident is related by Mr. Seys, as having just occurred at that place. Among the native convert youths of the school, is a lad named Nathan Bangs, the son of an African prince. The father came to see his boy. At the hour for going to labor, the lad was absent. In searching for him, sobs were heard from the attic of the school-house. On farther investigation, it was discovered that the boy had secretly taken his father to the chamber, and was pleading with tears in his eyes, that he would look to the American’s God, and secure the salvation of his soul.

But little advances have been made in the station at Jack’s Town, (Mesurado),\* but the state of affairs at Bassa Cove was full of promise.

Mr. Seys notes the arrival of the ship Emperor, having on board the Rev. John B. Barton, wife and mother, the Rev. M. Clark and wife, and Dr. and Miss Skinner. Captain Keeler, of the Emperor, it will be recollected, was knocked overboard by the spanker-boom, five days out, and drowned.

During the past season, Mr. Seys made a visit of ten weeks to Cape Palmas. The situation of the colony there is most encouraging. It is rapidly advancing in strength and in its moral and religious character. While there, Mr. Seys commenced the building of a substantial stone church.

From Boporo it is ascertained that King Boatswain is dead, and that his territory is the scene of contending aspirants and factions for the succession. No missionary attempts can be safely made in that country while such a state of things continues.

Mr. Seys was making arrangements for visiting the Pessah country, one hundred miles east of the colony, in which an opening was presented.

The report contains notices of some other stations, and much interesting matter, which will warm the hearts of all who love the cause of real emancipation in this country, and of civilization in Africa. We have never had such cheering advices from Africa before; the Coloniza-

tion Society is at length beginning to reap much fruit; and we trust its hands will be strengthened to persevere unto the end.

True, the Anti-Slavery missionaries are adding strength to many fetters; but we hope that the genial warmth of true benevolence will yet dissolve them again, while, united with a defensible portion of worldly wisdom, and directed by sound practical common sense, the labors of the Society will proceed to the triumph.

The following statement of members of the Methodist churches, and the condition of the schools, is from the report of Mr. Seys:

Monrovia . . . . .	142	—	Last year, 132	—	Increase, 10
New Georgia . . . . .	60	do	36	do.	24
Caldwell . . . . .	132	do	73	do.	59
Millsburgh . . . . .	63	do	10	do.	53
Edina and Bassa Cove . . . . .	96	do	86	do.	10
Cape Palmas . . . . .	78	do	74	do.	4
Jack's Town . . . . .	7	do	7	do.	0
	—		—		—
Total . . . . .	578		418		160

Schools within the bounds of the Mission during 1837:

	Day Schools.	Pupils.	Sabbath Schools.	Pupils.
Monrovia . . . . .	2	60	1	50
Millsburgh . . . . .	1	45	1	61
Caldwell . . . . .	1	50	1	98
New Georgia . . . . .	1	33	none as yet.	
Edina and Bassa Cove . . . . .	none	since July.	2	86
Cape Palmas . . . . .	1	25	none	
Jack's Town . . . . .	1	8	1	8
	—	—	—	—
	7	221	6	303

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBERIA MISSION.

*To the Corresponding Secretary of the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*

*Rev. and Dear Sir,*—A year of unparalleled prosperity to the Liberia mission has just closed upon us, and it becomes my pleasing duty to present to the board of managers of the Missionary Society my regular annual report, with the prospects which lie before us, and an estimate of the probable amount necessary to enable us to meet the expenses of this mission for the ensuing year. In doing this, sir, I feel entirely unable to express my gratitude to the great Head of the Church for the repeated manifestations which he has given us during the past year, that the glorious work in which your missionaries are engaged is the work of God; and for the great success which he has condescended to grant unto their feeble efforts. The fervent and united prayers with which we commenced 1837—"Save now, we beseech, O Lord; O Lord, we beseech thee, send now prosperity"—have not been in vain. The thousands of pious hearts among the Christians of America, which have



been devoutly supplicating a throne of Divine grace for Africa, have not been pleading for naught. The Spirit of God has been poured out upon us in rich and copious abundance, and we have had seasons of revival which have been hitherto unknown in the history of this mission. Scores of precious souls have been turned from darkness unto light, and from the power of Satan unto God. Nor has this work been confined merely to the citizens of Liberia. Our heart's desire, to see the Gospel of the Son of God extending itself more generally among the natives, has been granted unto us to some good degree; and upward of *twenty* of Afric's degraded and benighted children have learned to know that Christ whom to know is life eternal. We have witnessed, with no small degree of interest, their transformation by the renewing of their mind—we have listened to their strong cries and groans while they have been bathed in tears at the feet of Jesus; and, as we have wept with them when they wept, so have we been enabled to rejoice with them when, having passed from death unto life, they could rejoice in God their Saviour. The people of God too, in almost every settlement, are becoming strong in the Lord and in the power of his might. Holiness seems to be the pursuit of a great many; their constant cry is to be saved from the dominion and pollution of sin as well as its guilt, and be enabled to love their God with all their heart and soul. Some have entered into this rest of full redemption, and are not ashamed to confess that God is faithful and just to cleanse from all unrighteousness.

Another cause of heartfelt gratitude to God, is the help which has been afforded us in the addition to our missionary band of the three beloved ones who arrived in the Charlotte Harper, last July. And not only can we rejoice at their coming over to help us, but at the great goodness and mercy of God in sparing them. For while others have fallen—while we have been called to mourn over the loss of our dear sister Matthias, the wife of our excellent brother, the governor of Bassa Cove, and over the death of the pious Miss Annesly too—the hand of affliction has been laid most gently on these. The accession of a physician to your missionary establishment in Africa, and such a one too as you have sent us—pious, active, skilful—calls loudly for our praise to our heavenly Father. His almost total exemption from African fever, save two or three slight touches, not of consequence enough to name scarcely, is quite unprecedented in the history of any of the pale-faced ones who have come to Liberia, and spent so many months on its shores. But while we attribute this, primarily, to the kind interposition of a gracious Providence, it would be injustice in me, sir, and an injury to those who come after, to withhold the fact, that such is the extremely temperate and abstemious life of Dr. Goheen *in all things*; such his lynxeyed vigilance at every minutiae which might invite disease, and his great self-denial in the use of what may be termed only the common comforts of life, that I wonder not “the pestilence which walketh at noonday” can find no spot in his system on which to rest even the sole of its foot.

In the ministry, too, there is an evident progress in the Divine life; in the acquisition of useful knowledge, and in zeal for the Lord's house and the cause of the Redeemer. The Liberia mission annual conference closed a very interesting session of four days, on the 8th instant. Three

promising young men have been received on trial ; two into full connection, and every thing combines to encourage our hope that the " little one will yet become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation."

But it will doubtless be pleasing to the friends of this mission to hear separately from each station and department of the work.

*Monrovia.*—This place is our stronghold. We have a society here, in which there are men, in whom their fellow citizens place such confidence, that a large majority of the public offices in the government are filled by them. The Church generally are coming up to their privileges, and trying to press on toward the mark for the prize of their high calling. The schools taught during the year by brother Herring, the stationed preacher, and sister Eunice Moore, have been tolerably well attended, and have done well. But here I would beg leave to report to the board of managers, that having long since discovered the absolute need of an institution of a higher grade than our common day schools ; and as providentially the school-house intended to be erected in 1837, and included in the estimate for the expenses of that year, was never built, I have concluded, and do earnestly hope that it will meet the sanction of the Missionary Society, to erect a building for the purpose of establishing an academy of such a character as to meet the wants of this rapidly increasing mission. We have long since heard of plans for the establishment of a college, or a high school in Liberia ; but we have only heard of them, and read in American periodicals of liberal collections made for this purpose. We have seen nothing done ; and while others talk about the matter, we have concluded to be up and doing. If I have been too fast, my fathers and patrons will, I trust, correct me. But, sir, such is my conviction of the need, the great need of the institution of a " Liberia Mission Conference Seminary," that the site has been obtained, and in a most beautiful and elevated part of our town—the foundation laid, the walls going up, and the anxious expectations of the Methodist societies in Liberia looking up to the rising building as a place where their young men, their children, will receive an education suited to the claims which their Church, their country, will have upon them in a future day. Here we have more than a score of the most promising young men, converted to God during the past year, anxious to be fitted for future usefulness. They cannot be sent to the United States. Here they must be trained, if at all. Here we must enrich their minds, and prepare them, if called by God, to go out into this wilderness of perishing souls to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and those things which pertain to the kingdom of God. Pursuant to this plan, I have determined in the fear of God, notwithstanding my accumulating labors as our work spreads, to concentrate our forces in Monrovia, and in a few days to commence myself, in conjunction with Miss Beers and Mrs. Moore, a school of the character alluded to.\* We shall occupy a part of our large church until the academy is completed. But, sir, it will be seen that this amount of additional labor will be more than I can continue long to perform without doing injury to other departments of the work. Here then let me appeal to that body of men who have honored me with

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\* January 29.—This has been done, and with a bright prospect. We have already no less than one hundred pupils.

their confidence, and pray the board of the Missionary Society to send us help. Men and fathers in Israel, help! You are destined, in the providence of God, to be the main prop of this growing colony—this prosperous mission—the guardian angel of this benighted land. Send us a young man of a good classical education, of true missionary spirit, a graduate of one of our excellent literary institutions. Let him come out to us, and be the principal of this institution. Friends of Africa, help us with your means to meet these increasing expenses. Look at the probable results. Instead of depending as we have hitherto been obliged to do, for all our men from America—instead of being compelled to accept the services of females, to whom this climate proves so particularly destructive, we shall be laying the foundation for raising up our teachers, our ministers, on the spot. O! that the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States would wake up more thoroughly to this subject. Brethren! beloved and respected brethren, I pray you, in Christ's stead, come up to the help of the missionary cause! I thank you, in behalf of poor Africa, for what you have done; but this only opens the way to us to discover how much more remains undone. The little spot in the moral waste which you have already cultivated, only lets in the light to render the darkness and gloom around us more visible. The young native Africans which have been converted and added to us, are anxious to learn, so that they may teach others also the way of life and salvation.

*New-Georgia.*—Here, too, the society prospers, and the school is doing well. At a meeting, of several days' continuance, held not long since, many souls were converted; and among them several natives. Our hearts yearned over them, while we adored the goodness of that God who thus convinceth us of a truth, "that he is no respecter of persons, but that in every nation, he that feareth God and worketh righteousness is accepted of him."

*Caldwell.*—A sweeping reformation has gone through this town. Old hardened sinners, of whom their fellow citizens had but a faint hope, have humbled themselves under the mighty hand of God, repented and forsaken their sins, and are now rejoicing in hope of the glory of God. Besides this, several natives have also been made the happy partakers of God's converting grace.

Here let me remark, for the purpose of undeceiving a certain part of our friends in America, that though some of our native converts are right *out of the bush*, yet that many of them are individuals who have been residing in the families of colonists, have been taught by them the knowledge of the Christian's God—have witnessed their pious examples, which have proved unto them saviors of life unto life, and owe, in a great measure, their salvation to them as instruments in the hand of God. Away, then, with the notion, that the colonization scheme does nothing for the native African—that the missionary enterprise is confined to the emigrants, and that the natives benefit nothing by it. Let me stop, sir, the mouths of these gainsayers, by proclaiming the names of Johnson, Williams, Davis, Devaney, Philips, Tulliver, White, Willis, &c. &c. American colonists, in whose families native boys and girls have grown up under godly instruction and pious example, and are now converted to Christianity, and members of Christian Churches in

Liberia. Let me add, that in this respect salvation has come too to the mission houses within your mission in Africa, and boys attached to our families and institutions have been born of God.

The school in Caldwell has been faithfully kept, and proved very efficient and successful. Br. G. S. Brown leaves us, however, for a few months, to return more fully prepared, and qualified to live, work, and spend his days in this excellent cause.

*Millsburgh.*—What shall I say about this spot. The wilderness is blossoming as a rose. The solitary place is becoming glad, and rejoicing for them who have been sent to cultivate the hitherto barren field, and to diffuse light amid the gross darkness. And, thank God, the darkness is comprehending the light. O, sir, think what the Lord has done for us here! A society of 11 members, as reported at the close of 1836, has now grown to 63. The White Plains manual labor school has been owned and blessed of God. We have among us converted to God, Africans, named J. O. Andrew, N. Bangs, John Clark, P. P. Sandford, &c. &c. and these already begin to recommend this holy religion to others. Take an affecting incident to the point, as related to us at the session of our conference last week by Rev. B. R. Wilson, your missionary at White Plains. Not long since the father of the boy named Nathan Bangs, an African prince of an adjoining tribe, visited his son at our mission premises. Nathan being inquired for by the missionary, at a certain hour of the day, to go to work with the other boys, could not be found. In searching for him moans and sobs were heard issuing from the school-house, the upper rooms of which are occupied as the lodging places of our young proteges. In drawing near to the house Br. Wilson discovered that little Bangs had got his old father in private, pleading with him in tears to “look for the American’s God,” and get his soul converted to Christianity. The effects of this on our congregation in Monrovia was thrilling.

Sister Wilkins has commenced her school at Millsburgh, in good health and spirits, and has 45 scholars, including our manual labor school boys.

Brother Wilson is extending his ministerial labors to the surrounding native tribes—has held meetings among them through an interpreter, and reports the prospect as very promising.

*Jack’s Town, Mesurado.*—We make but little progress here. The school has not increased in the number of pupils, but the few boys belonging to it have made some improvement. Our help here is not as efficient as we could wish it to be, but for the present we can do no better, praying that the piety and holy example of our laborer in this place may at last prove a light in a dark place.

*Edina and Bassa Cove.*—I had my fears that the absence of Br. Barton would sensibly be felt here, and that the cause would languish and decline. In some respects it has been so, but br. Moore, the preacher in charge, has been zealous and faithful. Not being an ordained man, however, we have been indebted to the Rev. J. J. Matthias, the governor of Bassa Cove, for his aid on sacramental occasions, for which we are very grateful. There has been an addition to the number in society, and my recent letters report the Church as going on generally in the ways of righteousness and peace.

The young woman who had the school at the beginning of the year, it was judged best should close her services in July last; and I had engaged a young man of good qualifications to take it; but while I was absent at Cape Palmas, in August and September, to my surprise he embarked for the United States in the Charles Harper. Br. Herring having been appointed this year to the charge of Bassa Cove and Edina, will, as soon as he arrives there, and gets settled, resume the school, and, we trust, with his wonted zeal and faithfulness.

*January 13.*—I had written thus far yesterday when a vessel, which had been signalized for some hours previously, came near enough to communicate with the shore; and a note from the Rev. John B. Barton announced to me his safe arrival in the ship Emperor, but gave us the afflicting intelligence of the loss of our mutual friend Capt. John W. Keeler, who was knocked overboard by the spanker boom, during a stormy night, when only five days from Norfolk. On going on board, in company with Dr. Goheen, we found that Br. Barton was accompanied by his wife and mother, Dr. and Miss Skinner, and the Rev. Mr. Clark and lady. I have not failed during the night to peruse attentively the despatches which have come to my hand. In them I hear, with mingled emotions of surprise and regret, that your treasury, sir, is again in debt. O that I could be, for a short period, in the midst of the assemblies of American Christians, to plead with my tears in this cause! But it may not be. I can but write. I can but beg, through the medium of a letter, and at this great distance from them, not to let the Missionary Society be curtailed in its operations. Ye members of the M. E. Church in the United States, hear the cries and groans of bleeding Africa. To this day her children are torn from their friends and country, and borne in bondage, by cargoes to other lands. The laws and enactments of nations are laughed at. The slaver eludes all their vigilance. But you have the means of striking a death-blow to this unhallowed traffic. It is the Gospel which can do it, and the Gospel alone. Send men to preach this gospel; send means to support your mission. Brethren, I tremble, I sicken at the thought of your permitting your treasury to be empty; nay, even to be in debt. I dread that hour when it shall be said, that a draft of one of the missionaries of the M. E. Church has been protested for want of money to honor it, when that Church contains nearly 600,000 members. Let me die of African fever; let me see all I hold dear wilt and drop into the grave before me; let me be recalled from my post of honor—to me worse than death itself; but let me hear no more that such a body of Christians as compose the Methodist Church suffer their Missionary Society to be cramped in her efforts for the want of means to send the bread of life to a ruined world. But I resume my report.

*Cape Palmas.*—I made my annual visit to this place during the rainy season. Taking my little, sickly, fast fading Henry with me, we embarked in one of the colonial schooners, and after 13 days of suffering for want of comfortable accommodations, and even necessary refreshment, we got to the end of our voyage, a distance of only 240 miles. Not wishing to leave again in so short a time as five days having a great deal to inspect and adjust, I permitted the vessel to come away without me, and risked the getting of an opportunity back in some vessel

passing. But upward of ten weeks elapsed from the time I left home before my return.

The Church at Palmas is in an excellent condition. We had times of much rejoicing during my visit, and several were converted to God. The increase, however, for the year has been small, owing to some who, having walked disorderly, had to be cut off.

Br. Burns is faithful to his charge; he has at last completed the mission house so as to go into it, and his family are now therefore residing at Mount Emory. We have been obliged to employ a school teacher. Br. Burns' health, and the necessary attention required in building in this country, rendered it impossible for him to teach school himself and do justice to all parts of his charge. I have employed Mrs. Thomson, a member of the Protestant E. Church, to take this school. She is a pious woman, and well qualified.

Our meeting house at Palmas, of thatched roof, &c. was not only getting too strait for us, but was falling into decay. I concluded to build a substantial one of stone, preparations for which are making in the collection of materials.

This is a growing colony, well organized, well supplied by its patrons in America with every thing conducive to its welfare, and receiving semi-annually an emigration of choice emigrants. The native population even within the bounds of the colonial territory is numerous, and presents a vast field for missionary enterprise. The persevering and faithful labors of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, who are at the head of the mission supported by the A. B. C. F. Missions, are very useful. I accompanied Mr. Wilson in an excursion 18 miles down the coast to the Greyway and Cavalley countries. We stopped at several towns, and had much intercourse with the natives. We could easily establish a mission in the Cavalley country. In doing this we could not be considered as interfering with or trespassing on the ground of our Christian fellow laborers—for the harvest is plenteous, the field is the world; and if they take the right hand, let us turn to the left, and so contrariwise. Many extracts from my journal, as to the manners and customs, population, &c. &c. of the Greybo and other tribes in these regions, might here be given; but they have been so often described, and more accurately too than I could, that it would be swelling this report uselessly to too large a size. I would only add, that such is the great proficiency which Mr. Wilson has made in acquiring the Greybo language, that a large and accurate vocabulary has already been published at their printing establishment; and we have reason to hope that other Christian missionaries could obtain the aid of these in prosecuting missions among the natives.

*Junk.*—Appeals have been made to us from this place to send them help. For months they do not hear a Gospel sermon, nor have they a school of any kind. It may truly be said by them, "No man careth for our souls." But help is at hand. I have employed a school teacher to go down and reside there, and one of our young men, received on trial into the annual conference, will take the charge for this year—visiting them as often as the modes of conveyance in this country will admit.

*Sinoe.*—It is difficult to determine yet what had better be done in this place. A governor and physician have been sent out; and with a

few pioneers from Monrovia, have endeavored to continue the settlement begun by the active and laborious Daniel Johnson, but no emigrants have yet arrived for that place, and the lives of the few Americans have been at times in the most imminent danger from the natives, who have risen *en masse*, and vowed to cut them off. Under such circumstances to send a missionary, to spend money in building, &c. would be premature. It would be much more safe to make an effort there, were there none but natives, and they at peace, than to risk the entangling a missionary, and the reputation of a Christian mission, in these broils between the emigrants and savages around them. We wait the openings of Divine Providence.

*Boporo.*—While I was at Palmas an expedition from the Condoo country, of which the above is the capital, arrived in Monrovia, and brought me a letter from Moses Jacobs, which I received on my return. He was well, confirmed the news of King Boatswain's death, and writes that the kingdom is so cut up and divided, so many head men setting up claims for the crown, (if it may be called such,) that the probability is still less than ever of our getting an effectual foothold in that country. He had insisted on returning, and urged Parcola (one of the principal rivals for royalty) to afford him an escort down to the cape, had even packed up his things, and resolved to start alone and unprotected, if he would not send a guard with him. This elicited a promise that it should be done soon, even during the present dry season. But we have had more than six weeks fine weather, several parties have come down since that period, letters have been received by some of the colonists from Jacobs, but he has neither arrived, nor have I received a line from him in answer to a long letter, in which I urged his return, explained the fallacy of expecting pay from the Society for so long a period spent in doing nothing, &c. &c. In one of my letters from you, sir, which I have had no opportunity of answering yet, is the expression, "I wish you would penetrate into the interior." Permit me here to observe to the board, that this is in perfect accordance with my own wishes. I have long desired, anxiously desired this, but hitherto the way has seemed hedged up, and particularly the way to Boatswain's dominions. But, inasmuch as there are other fields which promise, at least, as good a harvest as the Condoo country, I have been laying plans which I hope will soon be carried into operation. There is an opening in the Pessah country, from seventy-five to one hundred miles east of the colony, which I have concluded to avail myself of. We have an intelligent member of the Church, who frequently goes into their country for purposes of traffic, and reports to me that every thing appears favorable to the undertaking. I have written a letter to Zoda, one of their principal head men, which he has taken, and will read and explain to him, in which I request, if he wishes a visit from me, to afford an escort, and I will go. I have sent him a *dash*, as a very necessary preliminary to our acquaintance, and will probably be able to get away about the middle of February, and be gone four or five weeks. I need not assure you that every effort which I am capable of making shall be made to enlist their toleration and protection of a mission school among them.

They are at peace with themselves and their neighbors—and the few I have seen of that tribe appear friendly, and much pleased with the notion of my visit. That there is much fatigue, exposure, and danger attending the excursion, cannot be doubted, and some think too much for *me* to endure. But in coming to Africa I counted the cost, and thank God, if I am to fall, it matters but little where the spot may be—an American settlement, or the town or village of an African tribe, so I fall in the path of duty.

*Stations of the Preachers, for 1838.*

Monrovia, One to be supplied, G. Simpson. New Georgia, Daniel Ware. Upper Caldwell, H. B. Matthews. Lower Caldwell, Elijah Johnson. Millsburg, B. R. Wilson, W. H. Taylor. Jack's Town, Mesurado, Henry Mumford. Edina and Bassa Cove, A. Herring, J. Moore. Cape Palmas, Francis Burns. Junk, John W. Roberts. Sinoe, to be supplied. Boporo supplied with a school teacher for the present.

G. R. M'Gill, located at his own request.

Squire Chase and John B. Barton, \* not yet returned from the United States.

G. S. Brown, without an appointment, in order to visit the United States, having been elected and recommended to the bishop for ordination.

A. D. Williams, without an appointment at his own request.

[For Numbers in the Society and the State of Schools within the bounds of the mission during 1837, see page 76.]

*Funds raised on the Mission.*

I am sorry to say that all which have been pledged from time to time have not been collected as yet. Our Conference Missionary Society held its first anniversary on Monday evening, the 8th inst. Several interesting addresses were delivered, upward of \$40 collection taken up, several new life memberships taken, and we are hoping the money will soon follow. The precise amount raised for the year will be ascertained by reference to the general account of the superintendent of the mission with the treasurer of the Parent Society, where it is duly credited.

I beg leave to submit the whole of the above report, with humble deference, to the board of managers, to solicit an interest is your prayers, and to subscribe myself, reverend and dear sir, yours, very affectionately,

JOHN SEYS.

Monrovia, 12th January, 1838.

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L I B E R I A .

We invite all who feel an interest in this colony, or who desire to understand its condition and prospects, to peruse Dr. Goheen's letter. The facts therein presented, appeal with an energy beyond all argument and eloquence, to the sympathies and liberality of the American People. Having founded such a colony, the light of one continent, and a home for the unfortunate and suffering of another, having demon-

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\* J. B. Barton having arrived since the session of the conference, and the stationing committee, who act in conjunction with the superintendent, having dispersed, the choice was nevertheless given him to exchange with A. Herring, who had not yet sailed for Bassa. He prefers, however, remaining in Monrovia, the place designed to be supplied by him on his arrival.



strated that the enterprise it commenced in reliance upon the benevolence of the country, and the arm of Providence, is practicable to any extent, and worthy of the generous support of the Governments of the Union, is the Parent Society to be left for the future, without means, powerless, to effect further and greater good for Africa and mankind?

VOICE FROM LIBERIA.—We invite special attention to the following letter from Monrovia. It is written by Dr. Goheen, formerly of Columbia, Pennsylvania, who went out last year, as physician to the African mission, under the care of the Methodist Episcopal church: a gentleman every way entitled to public confidence.

This letter is worthy of peculiar notice, because it contains an ample and conclusive refutation of the often repeated charges against the colony and colonists, the climate of Liberia, and the influence exerted upon the natives.

If our colored friends could only have the facts of this letter before them, they, or at least the better part of them, might discover how they have been deceived, to their own prejudice, by the injurious misrepresentations put forth by the enemies of Colonization in Africa.

We are indebted for a copy of this valuable letter to the Rev. Dr. BANGS, resident corresponding Secretary of the missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal church.—*N. Y. Spectator.*

MONROVIA, WEST AFRICA, Jan. 1, 1838.

*N. Bangs, D. D., Cor. Sec. of the Missionary Society of the M. E. Church.*

REV. AND DEAR SIR: It would be an act of injustice to you, and doing violence to my own feelings, to neglect the present very favorable opportunity of giving you a brief account of myself and this part of Africa, since my arrival here. It cannot be presuming too much to say that no other individual who has ever visited Liberia has had greater reasons to return thanks to the All-wise disposer of events, for life, for health, and temporal blessings, than myself; in truth language is alike inadequate to express the many favors and mercies, which I have been the daily recipient of; or the overflowing emotions of my heart in thankfulness when I attempt to recount them.

It is now better than five months since my arrival in Africa, and to the present I have not been prevented by sickness a single day from attending to the calls of my profession; one chill and three light paroxysms of *intermitting* fever, have constituted the amount of my *sufferings* by the much dreaded African fever.

The oldest inhabitants of this place, and many captains who have been for years trading along this coast, say that the degree of health which I have enjoyed stands unparalleled in the histories of all the white men who have taken up a residence in Africa. Surely I have been permitted to dwell in safety where many have fallen, and to abide securely under the shadow of the Almighty's wings, for which I desire to laud and magnify His high and holy name.

My duties have necessarily been somewhat arduous, owing to the fact that for the last four months the colonial Physician, Dr. Bacon, has been, and is still absent, on a tour along the coast. To those of the colonists who are able to pay, I make a reasonable charge, but by far the greatest portion are destitute of means to render any compensation whatever; to such I have been administering the medicines which belong to our Missionary Society, and giving my services day and night, without fee or reward. The governor requested me to open an account with the board of managers of the American Colonization Society, and he would pass and present the bill, but as that Society has one in its employ and in regular pay to attend the poor, I have concluded to make no charge against it, as some might imagine that by such proceedings the Methodist Missionary Society's physician is remunerated for his services to the mission.

The time to me glides onward with a rapidity that I have never before experienced; I am much more pleasantly situated than I expected to be; I board at the mission house with the Rev. John Seyes; we are a family bound together by the ties of Christian fellowship and brotherly love, all striving anxiously to advance the common cause for which we have been sent; and in endeavoring to do so, we daily realise, while attending to our several departments, that we are laboring in an interesting and highly responsible part of the great moral vineyard.

Life in Africa is fraught with the most interesting combination of changes and events that the human mind is capable of enduring. It is one continued scene of grand experiments and phenomena presented to the view by each succeeding day, as the result of the one which preceded it; the mind is kept constantly occupied in contemplating the peculiarities of the climate, soil, productions, manners and habits of its rude uncultivated inhabitants. Residing as we do among the colonists, and witnessing their praiseworthy efforts to reestablish themselves in the land of their ancestry, we cannot but throw our minds back to the period when Africa stood preeminently high among the nations of the earth, and leaving that time, we pass down through the centuries and changes which caused her high places to be broken down under the heavy pressure of idolatry and Mahometanism, until we arrive at the last few centuries, when we find a new series of barbarities and vandalic cruelties instituted against this poor devoted country; we find her compelled to yield her life's blood from every pore to enhance other nations, while she becomes desolate and waste. If the people of the United States could only have the sight presented to their eyes which we are compelled to witness daily; if they could see the number of slave ships which are continually hovering around this coast, in order to carry on this unhallowed traffic, I am sure their feelings would be elicited in behalf of her whose breath is as pure, whose climate as congenial, whose soil as productive, and waters as refreshing, as those of any other country under the heavens, but whose moral condition and intellectual faculties are shrouded in ignorance, by the influence of the raven of superstition, which has been permitted to brood over this land for so many hundred years, that it now presents to the mind's view nothing, save a "gloomy wilderness of dying thought."

Dwelling as we do, where we every day witness the conflict which is carried on between Christianity and heathenism, and the ascendancy of the former over the latter, we cannot but perceive the advantages accruing in a *double* point of view from the Colonization system, and in uniting with them in offering up our sincere prayers to Him who rules in the councils of men, that He will grant success to the benevolent enterprise, and make it a means by which the knowledge of the true God may be made known to this benighted people.

Previously to my leaving America, I made use of every possible effort to gain a correct knowledge of Liberia and the colonists, by diligently studying the different Colonization organs, and the various accounts which have been written by individuals who have resided here; yet I must confess that upon many subjects I was sceptical, because I was where the public ear was daily filled with the soundings of long and eloquent addresses from a class of men whom I considered too conscientious to make misstatements, and too well informed to be ignorant of the true condition of the colored race who come here as colonists. It was altogether impossible for me not to give credence to many of the descriptions and accounts of Liberia, given by abolition gentlemen in their enthusiastic and spirited speeches, when they would allude so frequently to the ignorance, the vices, profaneness, debauchery, drunkenness, and miserably wretched and famishing state of the colony. It must be admitted that I had been taught to place some confidence in the very eloquent speeches and harangues of those men, because I could not bring myself to believe that intelligent and philanthropic gentlemen would wilfully assert for fact, what is wholly false and without foundation.

It will not be denied that in public addresses and private circles, they represent the emigrants who have been sent here, as being cast ashore to wander up and down a barren coast, in an unprotected state, having neither houses nor food, but left in that destitute condition, exhibiting the lowest extreme of degradation, and misery, until sickness approaches and death ensues, which they welcome with joy as the end of their troubles; that they are ignorant, indolent, and much given to the use and abuse of alcoholic liquors; that, as I have heard them assert, "the streets of Monrovia are paved with whiskey barrels, and the sidewalks lined with drunken men!" "that Monrovia is located on a low, marshy flat, surrounded by mangrove swamps, the miasmatic vapors of which are so very deleterious, that life cannot be supported but for a short time, and that in a most sickly and enervated state," &c. &c. From all the information that I have been able to collect, by observation and otherwise, I feel no hesitancy in pronouncing all such accounts and descriptions of Liberia and its inhabitants to be utterly without the shadow of foundation or truth, and flagitious misrepresentations.

That you may know I am able fully to substantiate what I say, a few statistics shall be subjoined. The town of Monrovia contains about twelve hundred inhabitants; it is situated on a cape that extends into the Atlantic, and is elevated at least *seventy-five* feet above the level of the ocean and rivers. The town occupies a plot of ground nearly two miles in length, and one in breadth—the *whole* of which, about a foot below the earth's surface presents one solid mass of iron ore in large quantities, and

other rocks. There are no mangroves nearer than the *opposite* side of the Montserrado river, none on the cape, or main land to which it is attached. The town is fanned the half of each twenty-four hours by a strong sea breeze, which sweeps across it, purifies and renders the air salubrious. The most of the houses are well constructed and comfortable, decidedly more so than any person who has never visited them can imagine; the gardens abound in orange, lemon, tamarind, coffee, and other fruit trees. There is as great a number of valuable books and well selected libraries in Monrovia, as in any of the most enlightened villages or towns of the same size in the States.

With regard to the morals of the place, it would be gross injustice to bear any other testimony than that they are highly flattering and exemplary.

We have three large and commodious houses for public worship, built of brick and stone, that would do credit to the appearance of a much larger town—the tolling of whose bells for Sabbath school and divine worship, gives the place quite an American air. I have only seen one man intoxicated, and heard but one make use of profane language since I landed in Africa.

I watched them narrowly last fall, during the three days' election for a lieutenant governor, councillors, and other officers, and though party spirit ran high, each having its favorite candidates, yet there was no liquor to be seen—no swearing, no fighting, nor any of the many unpleasant circumstances which I have known to take place on like occasions, when there were a *less* number of qualified voters. The business of the colony is transacted according to due form of law, and it is not one of my least sources of enjoyment to visit the courts, and observe the dignified manner in which they are conducted—the judge, jury, attornies, &c., &c., of colonists.

It has frequently been said that the colonists and natives are not on terms of amity, and do not traffic with each other, than which nothing can be farther from the true state of the case. The fact is, that our town is continually overflowing with them—they come in companies of fifties from the interior, to sell us their beeves and other cattle, rice, camwood and ivory, and to get in return articles of civilization, such as cloth, hollow ware, and wash bowls, &c., &c. The citizens are all turning their attention to the cultivation of rice, sweet potatoes, corn, cassada, sugar cane and coffee. The village of New Georgia, three miles up the Stockton Creek, contains about three hundred inhabitants; Caldwell, six miles up the St. Paul's river, three hundred; Millsburg, twenty miles up the same river, two hundred inhabitants—all flourishing and thriving agricultural places.

I wish to remove, if possible, an erroneous opinion which exists in regard to the healthiness of Monrovia. I am aware that it suffers greatly in America in comparison with Millsburg, the Pennsylvania colony at Bassa Cove, and the Maryland colony at Cape Palmas. It is my impression, that if we take into consideration the greater number of persons who have been sent and landed here, than at the other places, we will have discovered one of the reasons of the greater number of deaths.

Again: it is *here* that the experiment was first commenced; in

Monrovia they had to bear the heat and burden of the day; they were ignorant of the climate and its influences, and alike destitute of a knowledge of the manner of subsisting and maintaining themselves, they were compelled to suffer in order to learn the ways of the country. Such has not been the necessity of any of the other settlements; they have had the advantages of this information without enduring a long course of hardships; they could come here and be informed how to commence their operations and carry them on successfully. Nay, more; in every instance they have employed the Monroviaans to be their pioneers, and to prepare the place for them. If we were to take a bird's eye view of the first settling of Bassa Cove, of Cape Palmas, and the Mississippi location at Synoe, we should find that they all have been indebted to Monrovia for the men who first cleared the ground and secured a foothold; that *this* place has furnished the mechanics to erect their dwellings, and supplied their head men in every department to rule and govern their operations.

The Maryland colony was first settled by some twenty or more of our most worthy and best acclimated men, with Dr. Hall, at their head, as the first governor of Cape Palmas, the doctor having previously resided in Monrovia as assistant colonial physician; and it would be no difficult task to prove that not only the pioneers and first officers of Palmas were from Monrovia, but that from its earliest organization down to this time it has continued to draw its principal men and mechanics from us. Its present governor, lieutenant governor, and other chief men are individuals who have been acclimated here, and for a number of years filled many of the most responsible offices in this town.

The Pennsylvania and New York settlement at Bassa Cove, has always derived its most active and enterprising citizens from Monrovia, and has ever been dependant upon this place for its architects, mechanics and physicians, and part of the time for its governor: not only so, but it actually owes its present existence to the timely relief sent from this place, and to the succour afforded by the Monrovia troops, who flew to its rescue, after the infant Bassa had been surprised and taken by the strong arm of the natives, and when regardless of its puerile efforts or feeble strugglings, they were about to seize and dash it from its cradle, and mingle with its dying agonies the horrid triumphant rejoicing and acclamations of a cannibal festivity.

Synoe, the Mississippi colony, (more properly the Monrovia colony,) is entirely made up of intrepid and adventurous spirits from this town; its first and only expedition was fitted out from this place, with Mr. Johnson, an old and veteran Monroviaan for Governor; nor does it now possess a single colonist from Governor Finley to its most humble citizen, who has not past through the acclimating African fever in Monrovia.

You will readily perceive that this place has raised up some children who, in view of self-aggrandisement, and to represent themselves in a prosperous and flourishing condition, have even attempted to detract from the well known popularity and justly merited pre-eminence of this place, and decry the location as sickly and uncongenial, its natural advantages but few, and the character of the place unworthy of farther patronage.

Why this town should be held up to the American public as "the

grave-yard of Liberia," I am at a loss to determine. There are no just reasons why she should be cited as the "Golgotha of Africa," for in reality she is the Alma Mater of all the American settlements, and continues to shed a fostering influence over the dozens of towns and settlements of Liberia, and is looked up to by each of them as a strong tower and sure defence in times of peril.

In point of enterprise, Monrovia does not come in with the other settlements for a share—she deserves *all*. Her citizens are the governors, counsellors, captains, mechanics, and main support of all the other Liberia colonies and towns. There has never been a boat or vessel launched at any of the other settlements, of a size to carry a hogshead of molasses, nor do they possess any; while at this place, upwards of a dozen have been built capable of carrying from five to forty tons.

The citizens of this town have suffered severely, by having their vessels wrecked; between eight and twelve, whose tonnage was from one hundred tons downward, have been lost; yet they continue to buy and build others, to enable them to keep up their profitable coast trade and to carry goods for the other colonies from this place to the different Liberia and other settlements.

Monrovia is the principal depot for Liberia; our harbor is continually visited by trading vessels of every class, from all quarters of the globe. I have sometimes counted as many as ten lying at anchor in the harbor at one time—brigs, schooners, ships, &c.

The river, for several hundred yards fronting the town, is substantially wharfed by a stone wall, and laid out in piers, to admit the lighters' approach to the warehouses, of which there are six or eight large and commodious buildings, constructed of stone, and occupied by commission merchants. The staple articles of export are ivory, camwood, rice, hides, goats, palm oil and tropical fruits. I have not drawn the line of demarcation so closely between this and the other settlements because I wish to exalt Monrovia at their expense, but simply to prove to you that the place which can give the materials and supply the men to commence and successfully establish so many flourishing communities, and at the same time increase its own population and national prosperity, cannot possibly be the most unhealthy of all locations, and possessed of no natural advantages whatever; besides I wish to assist in rescuing from obloquy the memories of those who selected the site for this town, by showing that they were not mistaken when they made choice of this iron cape as the most eligible foundation for the Metropolis of Liberia.

The great elevation of the town from the water: the large and safe harbor and anchorage; the smooth bar at the mouth of the river; the union of the Monterrado and St. Paul's rivers by the Stockton creek, all large and navigable streams, and the large and fertile lands which extend along their borders, are natural advantages which are not equalled in Liberia, and which give to Monrovia the decided superiority as a situation combining commercial and agricultural facilities, whereby its inhabitants may speedily grow independently rich, and dwell secure from foreign invasion. The suburbs of the town, the rivers and harbor, can all be commanded by the guns of the fort, which stands in the centre of the town.

The vessel which brought myself and the two missionary ladies to Monrovia, carried Governor Matthias and lady, Dr. Johnson and Mssi Annesley to Bassa Cove. The Governor and Dr. Johnson have both been so low with the fever, as to give but faint hope of their recovery. Mrs. Matthias and Miss Annesley, I am sorry to say, were carried off a few months after their arrival.

Miss Beers, who remained at Monrovia, was not taken with her first attack till better than three months after our arrival; it only lasted a week, and was not at all a serious one. She has had several trifling attacks since, but not of any consequence.

Mrs. Wilkins was taken down with fever six weeks after she landed, (caused by imprudently exposing herself to hot suns and rain,) and was confined three weeks, but at no time alarmingly ill; both at this time enjoy good health, and able to attend to their schools.

I would advise all missionaries and others coming here to make their arrangements so as to arrive in July or August, and also to bring with them the same kinds of clothing that are worn and adapted to the different seasons of the year in the States. They should also be well provided with furniture, goods, provisions, and money, but no tobacco or whiskey; we are a temperate people.

The rains commence the latter part of April, and continue till July, through which month and a part of August there is a trifling remission, after which they again set in and do not pass off till November.

In the rainy season the thermometer rarely descends below 72° Fahrenheit, or rises higher than 84°; the average temperature about 78°.

In December, January, and February (our summer months) it sometimes rises as high as 94°, and the average is about 86°. To-day, while you, doubtless, are calling in the aid of stone coal and "patent heaters," to keep up the body's temperature above the freezing point, I have my office windows open, to admit the free circulation of the air, the heat of which as indicated by the thermometer, is 88 degrees above zero.

Notwithstanding a variety of interesting subjects still continue to present themselves to my mind, yet, in order not to weary you, I must conclude.

In conclusion, permit me to inform you that I have never regreted my coming to Africa. I am amply compensated for any trifling sacrifices which I have made, and shall never lament the months, the years, of life spent in trying to meliorate the condition of this community.

With feelings of the most sincere regard,

I remain, very respectfully yours, &c,

S. M. E. GOHEEN.

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#### BASSA COVE.

The following letter and extracts will convey to our readers a better idea of the state of things at Bassa Cove than any formal statement of ours made up from them:

*Letter from J. J. Matthias, Governor of Bassa Cove, Western Africa, to his friend in Middletown, Conn., dated December 18, 1837.*

"There is not a finer climate for the colored man in the world, nor a soil more fertile. It is now our summer. The birds are singing—and a greater variety of song and plumage I never heard or saw. The thermometer for a month past has ranged from 79 to 84, and the season will continue until May; during which period the thermometer will not rise above 86. Although the 'Watchman' has been pleased to ridicule our organization as a republic, nevertheless we are a state, with all its machinery. The editor would be induced to change his views, were he to see our well dressed and disciplined troops, and their management of arms. I should venture nothing in comparing them with the Militia any where at home.

"Our courts of justice, of sessions and the supreme court—the clerks and sheriff, with the prosecuting attorney, with great readiness, perform their respective duties.

"To see members of council, gravely deliberating on matters of interest to the commonwealth and good government, together with merchants transacting their business with as much skill and propriety almost as in Middletown, is truly astonishing considering the short period since our organization.

"Our chief clerk for example, one of the children taken by the enemy in Ashmun's war, and again restored after a detention of some months, (Gurley's Life of Ashmun) besides being a beautiful writer, can, in a twinkling, cast up any account, and make his calculations, without pen or pencil, in the sale of articles, with as much accuracy as any of your merchants.

"I am preparing if well, to go up the St. John's to hold a *palaver*, with six or eighty headmen and kings, for the purchase of their country. A great change has taken place among them; they seem desirous of being allied to us, for the protection of themselves against each other's aggressions."

*Extract of a letter from Governor Matthias to Mr. Buchanan, the General Agent, dated BASSA COVE, Dec. 25th, 1837.*

You have some time since been informed of the connection of Edina with our government; they submit cheerfully to our laws and government; indeed every thing thus far has gone on very smoothly and pleasantly. You will see by the journal that we were under the necessity of enlarging the jail. We have now as fine a court-house as there is in Liberia. Benson has finished quite an elegant house, and others are laboring not merely to stay here but to live.

The government house is nearly finished—we have a splendid piazza in front of it; and the house is being painted. I have procured Venetian window shutters for the upper windows, so that we shall soon look more than respectable. The ground below the house, excepting a small part fenced off for a kitchen garden, we have planted with fruit trees. We have laid out the yard into walks and grass plots; on the margin of the walks are planted the cotton tree and papaw.

I took the boat house and have made a fine office and apothecary shop, with a piazza in front.

I have just returned from partaking of an agricultural dinner; not given by me, or us of the government, as is usual, you know, but by the farmers. Yes, the farmers of Bassa Cove. We had mutton, fish and fowl—fowls roasted, boiled and in pye—vegetables more than could be put on the table. The table was set under some palm trees, in Atlantic street—there were, I should judge, fifty persons present.

You need be under no apprehensions but that farming will go on. The Edina people mean to clear their farms this season, and we mean to make a grand effort, if we are spared, to plant the coffee tree throughout our farm.

We have bought as you have been apprised, of Yellow Will, a large tract of beautiful upland. There are four native towns on it. King Yellow Will is considered therefore as allied to us by the neighboring head men and kings, and they appear to be jealous of the honor, and are determined to share it. They have sent me word that they would sell their lands. On Wednesday of this week, we meet them at King Soldier's on the grand *palaver*.

Joe West and Prime, of New Sesters, two powerful fellows, have been in correspondence with me for some time. They offer me the whole of Trade town if I will go with them and fight and take it, and when I declined the honor, our large boat was wanted for the expedition, but our views were not warlike, and we are no longer annoyed.



Jonas Humphreys, one of the colonists, under date of December 10th, 1837, writes to Mr. Cresson:

“With the blessings of God, we shall not want to buy rice of them (the natives) another year; for some of the farmers have a large quantity now on hand, that they can spare to emigrants if they should come out, besides a large quantity of cassada, and potatoes. We have an agricultural society formed here. I have had the pleasure to attend two of the meetings—the first one that they had, I was not able to attend. Dr. McDowell was chosen President, Dr. Moore Vice-president; Captain David Lawrence, Secretary. The last meeting, Stephen A. Benson was chosen President, Dr. Moore, Vice-president, Captain D. Lawrence, Secretary. After passing several resolutions, it was resolved, that the society have a public dinner on Christmas day, and that there be an address delivered by Dr. Moore. It is pleasing to go across Messrs. Benson’s and others’ farms, to see plantain, cassada, cotton, coffee and potatoes growing, and, also, Mr. Beard’s farm, that he took up on the public farm for one year—his time is out next January. He has ten acres under cultivation. These gentlemen have had the means to carry on farming; they have kept two and three men steadily employed on the farm, and they are well paid for it.”

All the persons mentioned above by Mr. Humphreys are colonists, except Dr. McDowell.

Another of the colonists, Aaron P. Davis, one of the first settlers, and of the manumitted slaves of Dr. Hawes of Virginia, writes a short letter, to Mr. Cresson, contradicting emphatically the report that had been circulated, as he understood, in his old neighborhood, that he and others were desirous to return into slavery. He asks for a bible dictionary—a request which his benevolent correspondent will of course readily comply with; adding to the one many, in anticipation of similar requests from others.—*Colonization Herald*.

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### EXPEDITION FROM N. ORLEANS.

We were present Thursday morning, at 11 o’clock, at a most interesting scene on board the brig Mail, which was to depart in the afternoon of the same day for Mississippi in Africa, with an expedition consisting of about thirty-five emigrants, destined for that colony. It was the hour appointed for their leave-taking of their personal friends, and the friends of the benevolent Society by whose aid they are now about to be placed in a condition to commence the world as it were anew, on the footing of freemen, and in the land of their forefathers. The deck was filled by an attentive and highly interested audience, while Mr. Finley set out in a few appropriate remarks the character and objects of the expedition, and stated the circumstances of some of the individuals who composed it. One whom we remarked particularly, was an aged man, with gray locks carefully combed over his bald crown, and a general appearance of self-respect which comported well with his dignified deportment and brawny proportions, which gave together quite the impression of a patriarch, as he stood with head uncovered, surrounded by a group of the younger emigrants, listening with profound attention to their final instructions. But his own children, we were told, were not present. He has for several years endeavored to persuade them to go to Africa, setting before them all the advantages which they would derive from the change. But less enterprising than himself, they have declined doing so, and he has at last resolved to leave them and visit the country himself, and persuade

them subsequently by letter, if possible, to follow him. He is a man of considerable property, and has assisted several families besides his own in acquiring their freedom. The Rev. Mr. Park succeeded Mr. Finley in a short discourse, addressed in his usual forcible and practical manner, to the colonists themselves, setting out to them the two opposite results of their good or bad conduct on their prospects as a community, and giving them much valuable instruction and advice in relation to their interests, both temporal and eternal.

The meeting was concluded by an appropriate prayer by the Rev. Mr. Loomis, and the spectators withdrew, taking an affectionate farewell of the emigrants, and leaving them with good wishes for their continued happiness, and the realization of all their flattering hopes.

The emigrants are from the neighborhood of Natchez, and have nearly all of them been slaves. They take out with them a comfortable provision of wealth for their establishment in their new home.

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#### NEW ORLEANS COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

At the annual meeting of the Young Men's Colonization Society, held on Thursday evening, the 8th instant, in the Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Square, Mr. John S. Walton, President, took the Chair, and in the absence of the Secretary, Mr. W. F. Brand was requested to act as Secretary to the meeting.

Whereupon the meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Finley, Agent of the Society.

Mr. Finley subsequently, in a concise and lucid address, spoke of the general object and good proposed by colonization societies—examined some of the objections urged against them—stated the special object for which this society was formed, and presented a review of what has been done, and what is contemplated by the Young Men's Colonization Society.

It is needless now (he said) to inquire into the feasibility of colonizing on the coast of Africa, with their own consent, the free colored population of this country, and of thus carrying civilization and the light of the Christian religion into a land which has hitherto been in utter darkness. Time was when success in such an interprise was a matter of faith with but a few, while a few more hoped success only because much good was promised. Now 'tis no longer a subject of doubt. During the twenty years which have elapsed since the project was first conceived, notwithstanding the many and varied difficulties that have opposed themselves, the American and the State Societies have planted colonies now numbering 5000 souls, along an extended coast, which have offered the only sure check to the horrors of the slave trade; have spread the peaceful influence of Christianity over nations that had never known peace; have opened to the civilized world the resources of a country rich in every product of nature; and affording sure ground for the expectation of incalculable good in future, and exert even now an influence which should rejoice every philanthropist, and more than repay all the labor and treasure that have been expended.

The opposition that the colonization cause has had to contend with has been as adverse and as grave as its success has been providential and happy. The obstacles which have to be encountered by all first colonies have been among its least; the fate of first colonies seems to be like that of wheat, which bears not grain except it first die; the American colonization of free blacks is not an exception; when first planted it withered and died, and now when the germ has pushed forth the tender leaf, enemies, under every guise that evil can assume, seek to cut it down ere it reach the full ear. Some oppose the Society, on the pretence that the abolition of slavery is its object. Others, again, see in it the rivet that is to fasten the chains of the black. Some, with a facility of seeing things indistinctly, object that the United States can never be cleansed from the stain of slavery by such feeble and dilatory means. Such persons are wilfully blind to the avowed purpose of the Society, which pretends in no way to interfere with slavery or its remedy, but to remove to a country where they may enjoy the full blessings of freedom, the free colored population of the United States, and such only as give their free consent. Some refuse their aid because all the free blacks cannot be removed. May not such persons, if sincere, find sufficient inducement to do some good, though the greatest cannot be effected? Should they not consider the other great objects of the Society, the extension of commerce and science, civilization and the gospel? Nor let those who complain of the small number that has been removed despise the day of small things; the day shall come when it will be as impossible to prevent the emigration of those very free negroes who are now so loth to leave their degradation, as 'tis to check the floods that roll over this continent from the old world; and this at no distant date when the truth shall become known and felt. Some had honestly viewed the progress of the Society with suspicion, having an indefinite fear that the improving the condition of the liberated would render more discontented those who continued slaves. Experience alone could remove this fear, and Mr. Finley showed by examples within his own knowledge how much the result of experience contradicted these fears.

Mr. Finley then gave a sketch of what had been done by the different State Societies, of the number of colonies established, their trade with the interior and beyond the seas, and particularly directed the attention of the meeting to what had been effected by the Mississippi State Colonization Society.

This Society has existed but two years; yet, in this short space it has purchased a rich and extended territory, at the mouth and on the north bank of the Sinoe river, in a healthy region; has sent out a colony with proper officers; has established a regular packet between this port and Mississippi in Liberia; and such is the spirit that pervades the Society, that an annual sum of \$14,000 has been subscribed, while many have promised to aid the treasury of the society by legacies, and further its object by sending out and establishing colonists as soon as the progress of the colony shall render it expedient.


It is remarkable that the principal advocates of the cause are to be found among that class which, 'tis generally supposed, and often asserted,

should be its most determined enemies. All that has been done in Mississippi has been through the exertions of the planters, and large slave-holders—many of whom were enemies, but have become friends from witnessing the pecuniary benefit that has resulted to the slave-holders, from the influence of the Society. From the same motives that urged our friends in Mississippi, the Young Men's Colonization Society determined, at the last annual meeting, to send out an agent to Africa, to survey the coast, and select a location suited to the establishment of a colony of the free colored population of Louisiana. Soon after, it was suggested that a great saving of funds would result from employing, as our agents, the officers of the Mississippi Society. Their services were secured, and it was decided that the territory lying on the opposite side of the river Sinoe is such as best suits our purposes. All that now remained to do was to procure the necessary means of purchasing from the natives, the chosen spot. This society was sanguine, from the new impulse which the cause had received throughout the State, that the requisite sum could be readily procured, but, unfortunately, at this time was felt, by the entire community that shock which it has not, as yet, recovered; every one conceived that he was excused by the necessity of looking to his own things, from considering those of others. The vessel, which it was hoped would bear our remittances, sailed, carrying our instructions only to commence a treaty with the natives, and to secure, if possible, the purchase of the land. In a short time this same packet sails again—it is of great importance that she should this time bear the sure signs of the sincerity of our intentions; if our agents have effected the purchase, our payments must be met—if they have not, it is from want of means, which we must furnish. Something must be done—a beginning must be made—preparations must be commenced for the reception of the many persons in this state who, even now, are ready to remove—of the many more who will be desirous of so doing so soon as they see a reasonable hope of improving their condition by emigration. We are feeble—let us not also be faint-hearted. Who can calculate the product of zeal and determination? But a few years since, in New York, the number of the friends of colonization did not equal the candles that gave them light; now the largest halls in the city are filled by their meetings, and their subscriptions and donations are thousands. The time will come when we, too, shall triumph; when it shall be gratification to look back and remember that we were among those who, in the days of discouragement, withheld not our hand from this good cause.

Mr. President, the annual meeting of the Louisiana State Society will be held on Monday week. In the mean time, let a committee be appointed from this Society, to procure subscriptions, of any thing and every thing—money, provisions, clothes—things lying useless about a store, all can be turned to account in Africa.

Resolutions were then passed appointing a committee to solicit donations, and re-appointing the officers for the past year; and after the apostolic benediction by the Rev. Mr. Finley, the meeting adjourned.—*Ibid.*

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 Contributions omitted for want of room.





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